



STATE OF CONNECTICUT
EXECUTIVE CHAMBERS

JOHN G. ROWLAND
GOVERNOR

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
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GOVERNOR ROWLAND ANNOUNCES **BANNER YEAR FOR OPEN SPACE** **ACQUISITIONS**

Governor John G. Rowland today announced that the State of Connecticut acquired more land in Fiscal Year 2002 than any other previous year. The direct acquisition of a record 3,681 acres throughout the state was completed through the Connecticut Department of Environmental Protection's (DEP) Recreation and Natural Heritage Trust Program. The previous record total was set in 1999 when the state acquired 3,550 acres.

Governor Rowland and DEP Commissioner Arthur J. Rocque, Jr. announced the accomplishment at the 331-acre Moore Property, a recently acquired site in Salem, Connecticut.

"Connecticut has had a monumental year in preserving and protecting open space," Governor Rowland said. "Recent acquisitions have given Connecticut a new state park, created a new state campground, added thousands of acres to existing state parks and forests, and increased access to Long Island Sound. The DEP, the state legislature, municipalities, and local land trusts have all remained committed to preserving and protecting our unique landscapes."

Governor Rowland's commitment to preserve open space stems from his 1998 initiative calling for 21 percent of the state's lands to be preserved as open space by 2023 when he announced a \$166 million commitment in state funding to address open space acquisitions.

In the past twelve months the DEP has acquired 3,681 acres statewide consisting of 52 open space properties in 42 different municipalities.

“This is a remarkable accomplishment since these 3,681 acres of open space are in addition to the state’s acquisition of land and easements to 15,300 acres of Bridgeport Hydraulic Company (Kelda) watershed land announced in March of 2002,” said DEP Commissioner Rocque. “Our land acquisitions this Fiscal Year are notable not only for the record acreage, but for the record number of properties purchased. As we continue our commitment to preserving natural lands, large acreages will become increasingly difficult to find as the size of parcels available for purchase continues to decline.”

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Attachments:

Fact Sheet on Open Space in Connecticut

Highlight of State Properties Acquired in FY 02

Complete Listing of State Properties in FY 02

For more information:
Charles Reed, DEP Land Acquisition and Management
(860) 424-3016

Highlights of Properties Acquired as Open Space by The Department of Environmental Protection in FY 2002

The properties acquired reflect the uniqueness and diversity of landscapes in Connecticut, and they include the following:

- **Salem, The Moore Property, 331 acres:**

Within the Eight-Mile River watershed, the property has diverse habitat, which includes meadows, streams, a small pond, several vernal pools, and a mix of hardwood and conifer forest. The parcel is the third largest in the Town of Salem and will provide Connecticut's residents healthful outdoor recreation opportunities. The property was purchased cooperatively with The Nature Conservancy. (Currently the DEP & TNC are working together to acquire an adjacent 140 acre parcel.)

- **Kent/Cornwall Conservation Fund: 560 Acres. Access to the Housatonic River**

This is the largest property acquired in fiscal year 2002 and is comprised of three parts; 475 acres in Kent, and two pieces in Cornwall, totaling 86 acres. The property lies between the easterly side of the Housatonic River and U.S. Route 7. The property enjoys approximately 2.91 miles of frontage along the Housatonic

- **Granby, The Worthen Property, 524 acres:**

Owned by an out of state company, the parcel, over 500 acres in size and historically well managed as forest land, was purchased as an addition to Enders State Forest and will provide watershed protection along the west branch of Sandy Brook.

- **Stratford, Lordship Point, 28 acres:**

At one time owned by the Remington Gun Club, the current owner, Sporting Goods Properties, Inc., donated a conservation restriction. Located on the outer tip of Lordship Point in Stratford at the confluence of the Housatonic River and Long Island Sound, the property provides a panoramic view along 3,000 feet of shoreline. The DEP will manage the conservation restriction to protect the properties scenic and natural values for the public's outdoor recreation enjoyment and provide increased access to Long Island Sound.

- **Sprague, Salt Rock Campground, 114 acres:**

The purchase of this property includes acquisition of an operational seasonal campground with approximately 4,000 feet of frontage along the eastern bank of the Shetucket River. Recreational opportunities include camping and fishing along the Shetucket River with nearly one mile of waterfront access and water access. The property also includes a campground office and two in-ground swimming pools.

- **Groton, O & G/ Briggs Property, 57 acres:**

This property was purchased as an addition to Haley Farm State Park. The property consists of two separate parcels of land, which abut the park to the north and east. The addition of this property will also allow access to the park from Route 215. This acquisition increases the park area to a total of 255 acres.

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Fact Sheet on Open Space in Connecticut

The 52 acquisitions bring Connecticut closer to Governor Rowland's goal of preserving and protecting 21% of Connecticut land as open space by the year 2023, a total of 673,210 acres. The following is a set of facts and figures regarding Connecticut's pursuit of open space preservation.

- Connecticut is 3,205,760 acres in size;
- The state's goal of preserving 21% amounts to 673,210 acres;
- The state now owns a total estimated 223,343 acres (as preserved open space) which represents 7 % of all Connecticut's land and 70% of the goal;
- By 2023 the state will own (as preserved open space) 10% or 320,576 acres;
- Since (and including) FY 99 the state has acquired 13,343 acres as state managed open space;
- By 2023 municipalities, private nonprofit land organizations and water utility companies will own (as preserved open space) 11% of Connecticut's land or 352,634 acres;

- Since (and including) FY 99 the state has provided grants for purchase of 12,124 acres by municipalities, private nonprofit land organizations and water utility companies as open space;
- Municipalities, private nonprofit land organizations, water utility companies now have an estimated 229,864 acres (as preserved open space) which is 7% of the state's land and 65% of the goal;
- Combined, the state, municipalities, nonprofit land organizations and water companies now own an estimated 453,207 acres which represents 14% of all of Connecticut's land and 67% of the state's goal for 2023.

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Properties Acquired FY2002
(July 1, 2001 to June 30, 2002)

Department of Environmental Protection
Division of Land Acquisition & Management

Property Name	Location	Fee Acreage	Purpose of Acquisition
Treetops	Greenwich/Stamford	93.2336	Addition to Mianus River Greenway
Belardo	Salem	9.450	Gardner Lake Access
Lenihan	Cornwall	185.449	Addition to Wyantenock SF
Birmingham	Seymour	322.22	Fourmile Brook Watershed
Salt Rock	Sprague	114.410	New Camp Ground
Conservation Fund	Cornwall/Kent	560.000	Access to the Housatonic River
Gersten	East Windsor	73.2300	Addition to Flaherty Field Trial Area
LeVasseur	Glastonbury	23.625	Addition to Meshomasic SF
Spiller	Killingworth	36.2000	Addition to Cockaponsett SF
Maynard	Voluntown	64.1400	Addition to Pachaug SF
Macko	Griswold	84.6100	Addition to Pachaug SF
Barton	Lebanon	22.8900	Addition to Pomeroy SP
Bender	Lebanon	68.4700	Addition to Pomeroy SP
Calderwood	Stafford	55.402	Addition to Shenipsit SF
Dutil	Plymouth	61.110	Addition to Mattatuck SF

Blake/Tierney	Canaan	12.600	Addition to Canaan Mt./Robbins Swamp
Snyder	Griswold	11.600	Glasgow Pond Access
Yourous	Hartland	48.980	Addition to Tunxis SF
Wasstrom	Waterford	.335	Addition to Mago Point
Towne	Morris	8.410	Addition to Camp Columbia
Arpine	Bethany	19.959	Addition to West Rock Ridge SP
Dorhman	Canton	60.550	Addition to Nepaug SF
Desso	Somers	5.606	Addition to Shenipsit SF
Farina	Waterford	.5613	Addition to Mago Point
Gero	East Lyme	2.41	Addition to Nehantic SF
Cadwallader	Hamden	5.0207	Addition to Naugatuck SF
Lordship Pt.	Stratford	28.*	Access to Long Island Sound
Skinger	Stafford	19.78	Addition to Shenipsit SF
Crumbie	South Windsor	40.39	Addition to Scantic River SP
HIO Trust	Enfield	8.1	Addition to Scantic River SP
Corapinsky	Hebron	46.28	Addition to Salmon Brook SF
Roberts	Vernon	90.53	Frontage on Bolton Lake
Robak	Canterbury	35.34	Addition to Mohegan SF
Mihaliak	Union	48.	Addition to Nipmuck SF
Sturgess	Lyme & E. Lyme	81.	Addition to Nehantic SF
Rajewski	Griswold	6.1	Frontage on Pachaug Pond
Mt. Carmel	Hamden	4.	Inholding to Naugatuck SF
Smith	Haddam	28.4282	Addition to Cockaponsett SF
Guerra DeAngelis	Groton	49.95	Addition to Haley Farms SP

Bowen Briggs	Groton	7.14	Addition to Haley Farms SP
Worthen	Granby	523.8	Addition to Enders SF
Ft. Trumbull	New London	15.86	New State Park
Mudano	Hartland	11.42	Addition to Tunxis SF
Miller	Milford	2.9655	Addition to Baldwin Swamp WMA
Ladyko	Oxford	15.66	Addition to Naugatuck SF
Silkey	Hartland	13.873	Addition to Tunxis SF
Terwilligher	Glastonbury	78.243	Addition to Meshomasic SF
Verkades	Waterford	157.15	Addition to Harkness SP
Willie	Oxford	17.187	Addition to Naugatuck SF
Novak	Glastonbury	64.753	Addition to Meshomasic SF
Tenedine	North Haven	5.5286	Access to Quinnipiac River
Moore	Salem	331	Addition to Eightmile River Watershed
Total		3,680.95	